UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/561
S/24690
20 October 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 69
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 20 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of the letter addressed to you by Mr. Nicolae Tau, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, dated 20 October 1992 (see annex I), concerning the public declaration of 8 October 1992, made on the Ostankino TV Channel by Mr. Boris Yeltsin, the President of the Russian Federation, and the text of the Declaration of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, dated 16 October 1992 (see annex II).

I should be extremely grateful if necessary arrangements would be made to circulate as urgently as possible the text of the present letter and its annexes as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 69, and of the Security Council.

I should like also to recall the letter addressed to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of my country, dated 2 October 1992 (A/47/497-S/24612), and kindly ask you to take, as soon as possible, the appropriate measures in connection with the requests contained in this letter.

(Signed) Tudor PANTIRU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Moldova

ANNEX I

Letter dated 20 October 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to express the sentiments of my high appreciation and gratitude to the extraordinary effort that the United Nations undertakes under your conduct to bring peace and understanding among countries and nations.

In this respect, I should like to focus your attention upon new elements of tension, which have a strong impact on the socio-political situation of the Republic of Moldova. I should like to stress one of these elements, which is the public declaration of 8 October 1992 made on the Ostankino TV channel by Boris Yeltsin, the President of the Russian Federation. The declaration affirms, textually, that "we (Russia) have achieved our goal in Transnistria. Now we provide help, a direct help to Transnistria. At the same time, we insist that the President of Moldova convince the Parliament to grant Transnistria such political statehood that will provide for the exercising of the right to self-determination by this region. At present, we involve in this issue the international organizations, the participation of which would contribute to its solution. Meanwhile, the Parliament (of Moldova) examines three drafts the pivot of which constitutes the idea of creation of a self-governing country. This certainly, cannot be sufficient to us ...".

Thus, the Russian President acknowledges publicly the complex assistance rendered by the Russian Federation to the self-proclaimed Nistru republic, including the request, in conformity to which the President of the Republic of Moldova shall pressure the Parliament to grant "political statehood" to Transnistria.

The last political attitude of the Russian President is in a flagrant contradiction with the recognized regulations of international law and official commitment to the observance of the integrity of the Republic of Moldova made previously by the Russian Federation. Such inconsistency and cardinal reorientation of Russian foreign policy constitute a threat of destabilization and disintegration not only to the Republic of Moldova but to the other States from other geographical zones as well. We witness the attempts of a State, a member of the Security Council, to avoid the imperative principles of international law and to intervene in a disguised way in the internal affairs of other States, availing itself of the pretext of defending the rights of ethnic Russians. The authorities of the Republic of Moldova are deeply concerned about this fact, which should undoubtedly be an issue of primary importance to the world community.

Provided these conditions, Mr. Secretary-General, I confirm the request contained in my letter of 2 October of this year (A/47/497-S/24612) regarding the sending in the Republic of Moldova of a mission of United Nations

observers, in view of the monitoring of the process of Moldo-Russian negotiations concerning the Transnistrian issue, which includes the withdrawal of the 14-th Army.

(Signed) Nicolae ŢÂU
Minister for Foreign Affairs

ANNEX II

Statement by the Presidium of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

(16 October 1992)

The Presidium of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova,

Deeply concerned at the continuing tensions in the regions situated on the left bank of the Dniester, which belong to the Republic of Moldova, following the policy of secession, force and diktat promoted by the leaders from Tiraspol, which has resulted in the stalling of the dialogue concerning a political resolution of the conflict and prevented implementation of the provisions of the Moldovo-Russian convention of 21 July 1992 concerning the principles of the peaceful settlement of the armed conflict in the Dniester region of the Republic of Moldova,

Duly considering that all Member countries of the United Nations, including the Russian Federation, will adopt an objective position regarding this conflict in accordance with the norms and principles of international law set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the commitments assumed within the context of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and that, for those reasons, they will refrain from acting by direct or indirect means against the territorial integrity, political independence or unity of the Republic of Moldova (Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting, 1986, of CSCE, principle 5),

Expressing the hope that the responsibilities assumed by the Russian Federation both within the context of the quadripartite mechanisms and under the Moldovo-Russian Convention of 21 July 1992, will be honoured,

Taking note of the statement by the President of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, which was broadcast on 8 October 1992, by the Ostankino TV Channel,

Is compelled to state the following:

1. Given the public acknowledgement of the complex assistance granted by the Russian Federation to the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic and, in particular, by the request addressed to the President of the Republic of Moldova that he bring pressure to bear upon the Parliament of our country in order to grant "political status" to Transnistria, President Boris Yeltsin confirmed, beyond any doubt, the gross and flagrant violation by the Russian Federation of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States established in the Charter of the United Nations (Article 2, para. 7), the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty (paras. 1 and 2), the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and

Interference in the Internal Affairs of States of the United Nations (para. 2) and in the Final Act of Helsinki (section 1, principle VI).

By granting substantial amounts of funds to support the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic at the very time when it is, itself, requesting assistance from abroad, the Russian Federation is contributing to the use of these funds, directly or by the transfer of other funds, for the purpose of financing activities concerning the creation of the army, customs officer force, customs services and other unconstitutional structures of Transnistria.

By considering the exercise of diktat on the supreme legislative body of another country as "normal", the President of the Russian Federation, by contrast, does nothing to convince his own supreme legislative body of the need to adopt, concerning the Republic of Moldova, decisions consistent with the rules of international law.

2. By asking the President of another State to form a republic having the right to self-determination within the national territory of that very State, and by knowingly ignoring the ethnic realities that exist, the Russian Federation is, in effect, seeking to divide the territory of the State, which is contrary to international law (Charter of the United Nations (Article 2, para. 7), the Final Act of Helsinki (section 1, principles I, III, IV and VI), Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty (paras. 1 and 2) and Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal Affairs of States of the United Nations (section II (e), (f), (i) and following)). Such demands flagrantly contradict the undertaking assumed by the Russian Federation concerning respect for the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova (Decree of the President of the Russian Federation concerning recognition of the independence of the Republic of Moldova, of 18 December 1991, statement made by the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States of 20 March 1992 at Kiev, the agreement of 6 April 1992 on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation, the press release of 25 June 1992 on the quadripartite summit meeting at Istanbul and the communiqué of 21 July 1992 on the Moldovo-Russian summit meeting in Moscow.

3. The statement by President Boris Yeltsin may be termed an offensive by the Russian Federation on a number of fronts, first and foremost, on Latvia, Estonia, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova.

Furthermore, by claiming that the problem of the withdrawal of Russian armed forces is related to the issues of the Russian-speaking population living in the countries of the former empire and by deliberately ignoring the fact that certain occupying Russian military elements disregard and threaten the political independence of these States, the Russian Federation is deliberately arrogating to itself rights which flagrantly contravene the norms of public international law.

Thus, by inventing the concept of "nearby foreign country" for the former colonies which are now independent States, it is, in effect, dividing countries into two categories, the independent and those which are more or less independent, notwithstanding the commitments it assumed at both bilateral and multilateral level, and is arrogating to itself the right to interfere openly in the internal affairs of former Soviet republics which are now independent and full Members of the United Nations.

4. In assessing from every angle the position adopted by the Russian Federation during said conflict, and, above all, the statement made on 8 October 1992 by Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, the Presidency of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova considers that it is necessary:

(a) To inform the United Nations, CSCE, the Council of Europe, the Parliament of member States of CSCE and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, that the Russian Federation:

(i) Continues, notwithstanding the commitments guaranteed by and enshrined in legal documents, to infringe the independence and sovereignty of our State and its legislation by contributing to the occupation, by the secessionist forces, of a part of the territory of the Republic of Moldova;

(ii) Is flagrantly infringing the commitments and agreements signed with the Republic of Moldova;

(iii) Is using economic and military potential, including occupying armed forces, in the territory of the Republic of Moldova to put pressure on the legitimate organs of power of the State in an effort to restrict the latter's independence and sovereignty;

(b) To request:

(i) The institution by CSCE, on the basis of the quadripartite mechanisms, of an effective international mechanism for the settlement of the conflict of the regions situated on the left bank of the Dniester;

(ii) That a United Nations observer mission be sent to these regions of the Republic of Moldova in order to supervise observance of the agreements concluded by the parties involved in the conflict and withdrawal of the 14th army of the Russian Federation from the territory of the Republic of Moldova;

(iii) That the aid which the European Community, the United States of America, Canada and Japan propose to grant to the Russian Federation be conditional upon the withdrawal of occupying Russian armed forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova and observance of the commitments undertaken within the context of bilateral agreements and international documents.

Chisinau, 16 October 1992